

What is claimed is:

1. A method of making an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip, comprising the following sequence of steps:

providing a soft grip and an ultrasonic dental scaler insert, said soft grip having a rigid polymeric inner wall and an elastomeric outer wall, said ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a tip, a connector, and a magnetostrictive member, said connector having a first connector end and a second connector end, said first connector end being connected to said tip, said second connector end being connected to said magnetostrictive member, and

affixing said soft grip to said ultrasonic dental scaler insert to form an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall is generally cylindrical, and said soft grip is snap-fit onto said connector.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall comprises a first rigid polymeric side and a second rigid polymeric side, said elastomeric outer wall comprises a first elastomeric side and a second elastomeric side, said first elastomeric side is affixed to said first rigid polymeric side, said second elastomeric side is affixed to said second rigid polymeric side, and said rigid polymeric inner wall is formed by affixing said first rigid polymeric side to said second rigid polymeric side.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall circumscribes said connector.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said soft grip member is generally cylindrical.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall is affixed to said elastomeric outer wall.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall is adhered to said elastomeric outer wall.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall is bonded to said elastomeric outer wall.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall is generally cylindrical and said elastomeric outer wall is generally cylindrical.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein said soft grip member is generally cylindrical and is snap-fit onto said ultrasonic dental scaler insert.
11. The method of claim 1 wherein said rigid polymeric inner wall forms a nozzle for said ultrasonic dental scaler insert.
12. An insert for use in a dental handpiece having a housing having a longitudinal bore, comprising:

a tip,  
a magnetostrictive member,  
a connecting member,  
a nozzle, and  
a grip,  
said tip being connected to a first end of said connecting member,  
said magnetostrictive member being connected to a second end of  
said connecting member,  
said nozzle being supported by said connecting member,  
said grip being supported by said nozzle,  
said grip comprising rigid polymeric material and elastomeric  
polymeric material.

13. A method of making an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip,  
comprising:

providing an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a nozzle and a  
magnetostrictive member,

providing a soft grip having a rigid polymeric channel supporting an  
elastomeric layer,

positioning said soft grip member over said nozzle to form an  
ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein said rigid polymeric channel is  
generally cylindrical and said elastomeric layer is generally cylindrical.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein said soft grip is generally cylindrical and is snap-fit onto said ultrasonic dental scaler insert.

16. A method of making an ultrasonic dental scaler insert, comprising the following sequence of steps:

providing an ultrasonic dental scaler insert, and a first soft grip member and a second soft grip member,

said first soft grip having a first rigid polymeric inner wall and a first elastomeric outer wall, said second soft grip having a second rigid polymeric inner wall and a second elastomeric outer wall,

said ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a tip, a connector, and a magnetostrictive member, said connector having an elongated body, a first connector end and a second connector end, said first connector end being connected to said tip, said second connector end being connected to said magnetostrictive member, and

affixing said first soft grip member to said second soft grip member to form a soft grip, whereby said first rigid polymeric inner wall and said second rigid polymeric inner wall circumscribe said elongated body to form an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip.

17. A method of making an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip, comprising the following sequence of steps:

providing a soft grip member having an elastomeric wall affixed to a rigid wall,

connecting said soft grip member to an ultrasonic dental scaler insert to form an ultrasonic dental scaler insert having a soft grip.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said ultrasonic dental scaler insert has a tip, a connector, and a magnetostrictive member, said connector having a first connector end connected to said tip, and a second connector end, connected to said magnetostrictive member.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein said rigid wall is generally cylindrical, and said soft grip is snap-fit onto said connector.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein said ultrasonic dental scaler insert further comprises a nozzle and said nozzle comprises said rigid wall.